FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 249 29 December 1986

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Contadora Group Defeats Mexico Leadership Bid A 1

ARGENTINA

Reportage on 'Full Stop' Bill Approval, Criticism B 1
Chamber Changes, Approves Text [LA PRENSA 24 Dec] B 1
PC Criticizes Deputies' Action B 2
Alfonsin Signs Bill Into Law B 3
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 27 Dec]
Daily Denounces Passage of Law B 4
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 26 Dec]

BOLIVIA

Miners Protest Closure of State-Owned Mines C 1
Miners on Hunger Strike C 1
Minister, Labor Leader Comment C 1

BRAZIL

FOLHA Survey Shows Sarney's Popularity Dropping D 1
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 24 Dec]
Daily Notes Slip [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 24 Dec] D 2
CTA Develops BLG-252 Cluster Bomb Technology D 3
[O GLOBO 26 Dec]
Air Force Buys 12 Planes For Amazon Patrol D 4
[O GLOBO 23 Dec]
New War Materiels Enterprise To Be Formed D 4
[O ESTADO De SAO PAULO 23 Dec]

CHILE

Pinochet Rejects Open Elections in 1989 [AFP] E 1
State of Siege Lifted in 5th, 8th Regions E 1
Confidential Reports Found in Garbage E 2
PSSCH Rejects Proposal by Left-Wing Conclave E 3
[EL MERCURIO 19 Dec]
Bomb Explodes in Santiago Subway Station E 4

COLOMBIA

Alleged ELN Guerilla Declares War on FARC [EFE] F 1
'Secret' Antinarcotics Organization Created [DPA] F 1
Alleged Alfaro Lives Members Expelled to Ecuador [EFE] F 1

ECUADOR

Government Rules Out Relations With Nicaragua [DPA] G 1
Alfaro Lives Group Takes Over Quito Radios [EFE] G 1

PARAGUAY

President Stroessner Delivers Christmas Message H 1

MEXICO

Minimum Wages Go Up 23 Percent on 1 Jan M 1
Legislators Unhappy With Wage Increase M 1
Labor Union Leaders Pleased With Wage Increase M 1

PANAMA

Opposition Parties May Not Run in 1989 N 1
[LA PRENSA 20 Dec]
Briefs: UN, FRG Ambassadorial Appointments N 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Newly Formed Movement Asks Duarte To Resign P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 24 Dec]
Rebels Damage Helicopter in Usulutan 23 December P 2
[Radio Venceremos]
FMLN Issues Communique on Col Omar Avalos P 2
[Radio Venceremos]

GUATEMALA

Full Diplomatic Relations Reestablished With UK P 3
[AFP]
Army Denies Role in Kidnapping of GAM Member P 3

HONDURAS

One Injured in LA PRENSA Offices Bomb Explosion P 4
Montoya Says War With Nicaragua 'Inevitable' P 4
[LA TRIBUNA 26 Dec]

NICARAGUA

Ortega Proposes Contra Resolutions to Azcona P 5
Ministry Issues Communique on Missing Aircraft P 6

CUBA

Castro Closes Central Committee Plenary Meeting Q 1
Committees Meet To Discuss Upcoming ANPP Session Q 1
Approves Civil Code Proposal Q 1
Discuss Economy, Exports Q 2
Examines Composition of ANPP Q 3

Reportage on ANPP's 11th Period of Sessions Q 3
Sessions Open 25 Dec in Havana Q 3
Pass Council of State Report Q 4
Discuss Civil Code Draft Q 4
Hear Cienfuegos Report Q 5
Castro Debates Report Q 5
Castro On Cienfuegos Manpower Q 6
Censures Spanish Leader Q 6
U.S. Blacks 'Victims of Unfair Treatment' Q 7

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

Trade With Caricom Partners Termed Sluggish S 1
Government Introduces Antidrug Smuggling Measures S 1

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Prime Minister Announces New Cabinet 19 Dec S 1
Remaining Members S 3

CONTADORA GROUP DEFEATS MEXICO LEADERSHIP BID

PY201930 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Dec 86

[By Jorge Matiz F.]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 20 Dec (EFE) -- After 2 days of meetings in this city, the eight countries of the Contadora Group and its support group, which are seeking peace in Central America, let it be clearly understood that they are not willing to accept the leadership of any Latin American country.

This was shown by the decision of the eight foreign ministers from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela to create a permanent consultative "mechanism" to deal with issues other than the initially proposed question of Central America.

This decision soundly defeated the intentions of a group of countries, headed by Mexico, which arrived at the Rio de Janeiro meeting with a proposal to create a new Inter-American organization to replace the OAS, without the presence of the United States.

One of the foreign ministers who participated in the 2 days of discussions revealed that the 10-page proposal was strongly supported by Peru, and "to some extent by Argentina."

He said: "We could not permit this to happen. After having decided to strengthen the OAS we could not come to Rio and create another organization."

This question divided the foreign ministers into two groups: those who supported the proposal (Argentina, Peru, and Mexico), and those who opposed it (Brazil, Venezuela, and Colombia).

Panama and Uruguay appeared to be neutral in the discussion that several times threatened to force the ministers to extend the "summit" of ministers that had originally been planned to last only 2 days.

It was even officially announced to newsman that the document on the creation of the cooperation mechanism would not be released until the afternoon of Friday, 19 December.

The source revealed: "With great cordiality we succeeded in reducing the length of the document to 2 pages and in promoting the view that the OAS should not disappear."

The Rio de Janeiro debate clearly showed Mexico's effort to assume to leadership of the two groups through bold proposals and constant "off the record" (unofficial) contacts with international newsmen.

"If someone wants the leadership, I would answer by asking him how he can hope to obtain that leadership by arriving at a meeting with a document [passage indistinct].

REPORTAGE ON 'FULL STOP' BILL APPROVAL, CRITICISM

Chamber Changes, Approves Text

PY260300 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Dec 86 p 1, 4

[Text] The following is the text of the full stop bill which last night was approved by the Chamber of Deputies. The articles of the original bill submitted by the executive branch to the Senate are included in parenthesis to compare the changes made by the national Congress.

Article 1. Legal action against any person for his alleged participation to any degree in the crimes established by Article 10 of Law 23049 who is not at large or declared in contempt of court, or who has not been ordered to testify by an appropriate court 60 days before the promulgation of this law, will be annulled.

Legal action against any person who committed crimes linked to the implementation of violent political action until 10 December 1983 will also be annulled under the same conditions.

(Article 1. Legal action against any member of the Armed Forces, security, police and penitentiary organizations for his alleged participation, to any degree, in crimes which may have been committed as a result of, or during the events involving repression until 10 December 1983, or who has not been ordered to testify by an appropriate court within 60 days from the promulgation of this law, or who has testified, but is not being tried or was not tried within that period, will be annulled.)

Article 2. Within the terms established by Article 1, the appropriate federal courts will be able to examine the cases being processed by the Armed Forces Supreme Council and take over the cases if necessary.

The accusations made under those terms to the Armed Forces Supreme Council must be reported within 48 hours by the Armed Forces Supreme Council to the appropriate federal court which must examine them and take over the case if necessary.

(Article 2. Within the terms established by Article 1, the appropriate federal courts will be able to examine the cases being processed by the Armed Forces Supreme Council and take over the cases in accordance with the last paragraph of Article 10 of Law 23049.)

Article 3. When, as a result of the cases being tried, an order is given for the arrest or preventive custody of an active duty member of the Armed Forces, or security, police and penitentiary organizations, whatever his rank, in accordance with Articles 373 to 375 of the Penal Procedure Code or Articles 309 to 318 of the Military Justice Code, such order will be implemented according to Clause 2, Article 315 of the Military Justice Code upon petition by the chief of the individual's unit or any other superior officer. In this case the superior officer will be responsible for immediately presenting the accused to the court whenever the court requires it.

(Article 3. Any accusation such as that described in Article 1, which has not been presented to the courts by the time of the promulgation of this law can be submitted to the Armed Forces Supreme Council within the first 30 days established in that Article. After that time, the legal action will be annulled.)

Article 4. The terms of Article 1 do not apply when questions of jurisdiction between the Armed Forces Supreme Council and the federal courts or between the federal courts, as well as the pending motions preclude the court from deciding whether there are sufficient grounds to order an investigation. The time it takes for the appropriate federal court to notify the Armed Forces Supreme Council of the court's requirements, according to Article 2, and the time it takes for the case to get to the federal court, will not be computed.

Article 252 bis, the last part of the Military Justice Code will not apply to Article 1.

(Article 4. When as a result of the cases being tried an order is given with regard to active duty personnel, whatever his rank, in accordance with measures established in Title XVII, Book II of the Code of Penal Procedure, or in Title VII, Section II of Book II of the Second Volume of the Military Justice Code, such a measure will be implemented in accordance with Clause 2 of Article 315 of the Military Justice Code upon a petition by the chief of the individual's unit, or any other superior officer will be responsible for immediately presenting the accused to the court whenever the court requires it.)

Article 5. This law does not annul the legal actions in the cases of crimes involving the substitution of civil status [estado civil].

(Article 5. Article 1 will not apply to questions of jurisdiction. The time it takes for the appropriate federal court to notify the Armed Forces Supreme Council of the court's requirements, according to Article 2, and the time it takes for the case to get to the federal court, will not be computed.)

Article 6. The annulment established by Article 1 does not include civil actions.

(Article 6. Notify the executive branch.)

PC Criticizes Deputies' Action

PY271715 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2235 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Dec (DYN) -- The Communist Party (PC) today termed the approval of the "full stop" bill as "a manifest betrayal of the people's will, which was expressed in the ballot boxes." The PC also harshly criticized the ruling party lawmakers for voting for the bill, and the Peronist lawmakers of the renewal faction for not taking part in the congressional debate on the issue.

In a news conference, the PC said that "the people do not understand the government's reasons for pushing the bill through, but realize that the reason might be the government's belief in the doctrine of democracy through security, a belief which is so characteristic of imperialists and their local supporters." The PC added that "the ruling party lawmakers who voted for this unspeakable bill are accomplices to and responsible for the serious consequences that this bill has for Argentine democracy."

"The responsibility for these consequences has to be shouldered by the members of the Peronist renewal faction, who seek to satiate their greedy appetites for votes by avoiding the congressional debate, thus not having to reveal the names of those responsible for the infamous actions perpetrated during the de facto regime," the PC added.

The PC concluded by thanking "those who have repudiated the 'full stop' bill by voting against it," and added that "the backward, McCarthyite proposal of the Democratic Centrist Union [UCD], which is led by the regrettably notorious Alsogaray, shows that, besides seeking more votes, the UDC is being faithful to its reactionary line, which goes against the interests of the people."

Alfonsin Signs Bill Into Law

PY272114 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Dec 86 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin signed into law the full stop bill passed by Congress which set a 60-day deadline for summoning people to face charges of human rights violations during the former military regime.

The President flew to Mar del Plata on vacation later yesterday.

The bill was countersigned by Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, who also signed as interim justice minister, and Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena.

The controversial bill, which has brought sharp reaction from human rights groups and even from members of the ruling Radical Party, was backed yesterday by Interior Ministry Secretary Facundo Suarez Lastra who said he was convinced the "silent majority" was in favour of it.

"If we had tried to issued an amnesty we wouldn't have had the support of the people, but the parliamentary debate perfectly clarified that the purpose was to speed up the trials of military personnel and civilians accused of violating human rights," Suarez Lastra said.

The bill, as modified by the Senate, will benefit not only the military and security forces involved in the repression of left-wing subversion but also the guerrillas who operated up to December 10, 1983, the date on which Alfonsin took office.

The law however, does not benefit persons involved in the disappearance of minors whose parents disappeared during the dirty war against leftwing subversion.

Although the "full stop" law officially bears the date of December 24, 1986, it will not be enforced until its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE (Boletin Oficial) which had not been issued for more than a week because of a labour conflict to press wage demands.

Reliable sources said no law can be enforced until one day after its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

But other sources claimed the mere fact that the text of the law was published in some newspapers effectively puts it into force.

Questioned on whether he felt comforted by the fact that the law, which he himself had struggled to put through Congress, was finally issued, Alfonsin replied: "I will feel comforted when my six-year mandate is up and I hand over the presidential sash."

Daily Denounces Passage of Law

PY262132 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Dec 86 p 10

[Editorial: "A Paradox"]

[Text] The speed with which the so-called "full stop" legislation to end trials against military men accused of human rights violations committed on a massive scale from the mid to late 1970s has moved through Congress is not, from a political point of view, surprising. This issue is, without a doubt, one of the hottest political questions the Alfonsin administration will have to face in its term in office. Thus, the government has done everything within its power to push the bill through. But from a moral standpoint, it is incredible that the piece of legislation has been handled with such rapidity and superficiality by the elected representatives of the people. Arguments in favour of the legislation have been facile and irrational. And most arguments against it have been irritatingly void of obvious and convincing points that might have swayed those whose votes hung in the balance. This, coupled with the fact that the most traditional sector of the major opposition party had a great deal to lose -- given its early proximity with the events leading to the "dirty war" -- by opposing the government-backed initiative have made for an easy ride through Congress for the "full stop."

There is a very real paradox between the attitude which has been taken by the supporters of the "full stop" (in the major political parties' leadership, in the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy and in certain sectors of the press) in comparison with the attitude taken by many members of these same institutions with regard to divorce. These people -- the ones who are staunchly opposed to divorce and blindly supportive of the "full stop" -- seem to miss the irony in their stance. How can it be that those who see the legal possibility of ending bad marriages with decorum as a threat to the cohesion and integrity of Argentine society -- the very bishops who would ex-communicate legislators who feel it their duty to vote for divorce, the hardline lawmakers who would vote against divorce on the basis of moral conviction -- are the very same people who find mass murder, torture, disrespect for rule of law and arrogant disdain for human rights at all levels (to say nothing of sedition) excusable crimes? How can leaders of public opinion, who find divorce so distasteful that they tried to block even the discussion of it in Congress, consider heinous crimes against man, civilization and society a matter to be rushed through and limited to immediate action for the sake of political expediency?

Something is very wrong, frighteningly amiss when a society will permit its basic ethics to be bent to fit the political goals of self-interested sectors. There is a very real danger to the social fabric when whatever is easiest is considered most correct. And there is something perverse about compromising the future integrity and moral strength of the democratic system in return for a snatch of fragile tranquility in the immediate term. The "full stop" is unethical, immoral and a threat to the independence of this fledgling democracy. But it has, nevertheless, been made law.

MINERS PROTEST CLOSURE OF STATE-OWNED MINES

PY221700 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0142 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Lima, 21 Dec (EFE) -- Thousands of dismissed miners today marched along the streets of the mining districts of La Paz, Potosi, and Oruro, protesting the government's decision to close state-owned mines. The marchers thus commemorated miners' day and the anniversary of the nationalization of the mines, on a day when 19,000 miners' families are deploring the loss of their income. [passage omitted]

In a document released today, the miners claim that the new economic policy of the ADN-MNR (Banzer-led Nationalist Democratic Action and Nationalist Revolutionary Movement) government as of August 1985 has resulted in the dismissal of thousands of miners. In a message addressed today, Mines Minister Jaime Villalobos said that the executive branch will strive "to preserve the nationalization of the mines," which was declared on 21 December 1952 to commemorate the Catavi massacre. [the killing of protesting miners in Catavi on 21 December 1942]

Miners on Hunger Strike

PY221836 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Relay by Cristina Corrales]

[Excerpt] The relocated miners have just gone on hunger strike because the government has refused to hear their requests and because they have not been able to be received by the mines and metallurgy minister. In desperation, the 4,000 relocated miners who are in La Paz have gone on hunger strike in three groups in La Paz with others in Oruro and Cochabamba, since the strike is nationwide. This has been reported by the National Relocated Miners Committee. Manuel Hernandez Beizaga, secretary general of that committee, will make a statement.

[Begin Hernandez recording] I want to inform the workers in general, and the public in particular, that the relocaled miners have initiated a nationwide hunger strike. The hunger strike was started in La Paz by three groups: One at the San Andres University with miners from Catavi and Siglo XX; one at the Miners Federation headquarters, with miners from Corocoro and Caracoles; and one more group that will start the strike at the Factory Workers Federation and the Tupac-Catari Peasants Union. We will continue to organize more groups and take this occasion to call on all our fellow miners to join this strike in an orderly manner. Also I want to thank the Panamerica newsmen and all the press for covering our movement. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Minister, Labor Leader Comment

PY2761704 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Interior, Migration, and Justice Minister Fernando Barthelemy has said that the government has the support of the Constitution and will not permit any actions, such as blocking railroads and highways, that may disturb public order and harm the citizens.

In statements made yesterday at Government Palace, the minister referred to the measures of pressure announced by the mineworkers in support of the relocated workers who are on a hunger strike here in La Paz. The strikers are demanding that the government comply with earlier agreements.

[Begin Barthelemy recording] We will absolutely not permit the blocking of railroads and highways. In any case, the Constitution authorizes the Armed Forces to intervene, under orders of the president, to restore order if the police forces are unable to do so. [end recording]

The hunger strike, an extreme measure undertaken by former mineworkers together with their wives and children, threatens to take a more serious turn and become a large-scale social conflict. This development has prompted Radio Panamericana newsmen to ask Minister Barthelemy if this situation might not destabilize the government.

[Begin Barthelemy recording] You need not doubt the fact that the current government will complete its 4-year term. We have the means, the laws, and the Constitution, and we have the forces to defend the government. Those who believe that they can overthrow a government by these measures are living under delusions. The only thing that is true is that they are creating more problems and making the recovery of the country more difficult. [end recording]

These were the statements made by Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy.

Meanwhile, Victor Lopez, executive secretary of the Mineworkers Federation, has termed as irresponsible the way in which the government handles the problems of the relocated mineworkers. He denied that the current hunger strike is being organized by extremists, because the mines and planning under secretaries went to the picket lines and were told by the grassroots that the hunger strike will continue. Victor Lopez stated that the mines minister is the only extremist, since he has taken extreme measures against the workers, dismissing over 20,000 mineworkers.

The Mineworkers Federation presented the government with a plan stating that an investment of $29 million would lead to the recovery of $160 million, but the mines minister did not even look at the five-volume study written by a group of specialists. That plan was viable and it did not involve the social cost of improvisations, on which $40 million has been spent uselessly without averting serious consequences, Lopez said. He added that the mines minister, who wishes to transfer the mines to the private sector, has attempted to disorganize the workers through a number of pressures that forced the workers to resign.

Lopez then said that the government has always postponed the solution to the problem, using a number of arguments that have been publicized in a suitable manner and supported by mineworkers who are members of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement. He explained that the Mineworkers Federation has never struggled for greater social benefits for the workers, but rather, and from the beginning, for maintaining the Mining Corporation of Bolivia as a state enterprise, and for a guarantee that this source of jobs should remain in the hands of the state. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, the Catholic Church announced its decision to mediate in the conflict which has become one of the most serious ones in the country.

FOLHA SURVEY SHOWS SARNEY'S POPULARITY DROPPING

PY252309 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Dec 86 p A5

[Text] Most residents of Sao Paulo want the constituent assembly to reduce President Jose Sarney's term in office, which according to the current Constitution is 6 years (until 1990). This was the result of a FOLHA survey conducted in Sao Paulo on 16 December. Out of the 1,049 people that DataFOLHA interviewed, 69 percent want it reduced to 3 years (and direct elections in 1987), 26 percent say 4 years is long enough, and 9 percent want it cut down to 5 years. Only 27 percent of those interviewed want the current 6-year term in office maintained.

Those residents of Sao Paulo who sympathize with the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] have the highest percentage of believers in the 6-year term in office (36 percent). Meanwhile, 63 percent of them want Sarney's term reduced: 24 percent to 3 years, 27 percent to 4 years, and 12 percent to 5 years. Among the supporters of the PT [Workers Party] 87 percent want the constituent assembly to reduce Sarney's term in office: 51 percent want it to be 3 years, and only 12 percent agree with the 6-year term in office. Even broken down by sex, age or education levels, there are few differences among the residents of Sao Paulo as far as the presidential term in office is concerned.

The FOLHA survey also asked each of the persons interviewed about their choice of candidates to succeed Sarney. Even though almost half of them (44 percent) stated no preferences for any given candidate, the names that came up the most were: that of Sarney himself, 11 percent, Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies and of the PMDB, and Deputy Paulo Maluf PDS (Social Democratic Party) candidate for Sao Paolo governor, who lost the 15 November elections. Each of the two men received the support of 7 percent of those surveyed.

Governors Leonel Brizola (Rio de Janeiro) and Franco Montoro (Sao Paulo), who no longer bother to hide their desire to succeed President Sarney, were rated the sixth and ninth most liked candidates respectively, 3 percent of those surveyed mentioned Brizola, and 1 percent indicated Montoro. The fourth most favored candidate, among the residents of Sao Paulo, was businessman Antonio Ermirio de Moraes, the PTB [Brazilian Labor Party] candidate for Sao Paulo governor who lost the latest elections. Federal deputy-elect Luis Inacio Lula da Silva (PT) and Senator-elect Mario Covas (PMDB) were also mentioned, along with Mines and Energy Minister Aureliano Chaves.

Almost half (46 percent) of the surveyed residents of Sao Paulo rate Sarney's administration as average. On 22 November, 1 day after the second phase of the Cruzado Plan was announced, 34 percent of the residents of Sao Paulo rated the performance of the Federal Government good, on 5 December this percentage rose to 39. Now only 27 percent believe that the performance of the government is good or very good. On 5 December, 18 percent of the people felt that the administration was doing a bad or worse job, now 27 percent feel that way.

Taking party leanings into account, the highest percentage of support for the government (that is those who rate it good or very good is among PMDB (42 percent) and PDS (38 percent) sympathizers. The highest percentage of those who believe that the administration is bad or worse is among the supporters of the PT and the lowest is among the PMDB (14 percent).

Daily Notes Slip

PY252315 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Dec 86 p 2

[Editorial: "President's Rating Goes Downhill"]

[Text] President Jose Sarney's loss of prestige, which was recently noted by a survey conducted by FOLHA, continues to go downhill. It is now lower than it was following the announcement of the Cruzado II Plan. Shadows are thus cast over the next steps to be taken by the Sarney administration.

The number of people who rate Sarney's government as excellent or good has dropped to 27 percent. On 5 December it was 39 percent. The decrease is probably due to the price increases that have been approved since that date. The idea that the price freeze has ended, that what is being presented as a realignment of prices marks the end of a real control of the inflationary process, is spreading. This is automatically reflected in the evaluation of the president's performance.

An unexpected consequence of the price freeze, which was viewed as practically the only mechanism for fighting inflation up until the Cruzado Plan II was implemented, is that any price increase, no matter how limited or how necessary it might be, is being transformed into a political issue. Today, as never before, the government is more vulnerable because of the changing economic circumstances. The problem goes beyond the individual prestige of the president, it now takes on an institutional connotation. The discussion of extending or reducing the president's term now shadows the rise or fall of expectations, or economic promises or disappointments.

Simultaneously, the efforts to normalize the market are becoming more complicated and difficult. No matter how moderate and cautious it might be, any measure adopted to decrease demand becomes a pretext for political defiance. An instance of such defiance was the general strike that was called on 12 December.

The government itself is responsible for the extreme politicization of economic affairs, as well as for all the difficulties that such a politicization represents for a more realistic strategy for fighting inflation. The government's electoral tactics were based on a hollow position of defending the price freeze, without taking any measure that could have prepared the way for the gradual and controlled lifting of the price freeze. In line with those electoral tactics, the government waited too long, 21 November, to announce its new economic package.

The prospects of accelerating price increases next year, which will be a hard blow for renters, imposes on the government the necessity to regain the confidence it lost. The president has so far shown that he does not lack the political acumen to make up lost time. Nevertheless, little of what he intends to do -- and the rumors go from a new price freeze to a Cabinet reshuffle -- will be of much help if what he does does not have a sustained effect, as has been the case so far.

With or without popularity, with 4 or 3 more years in government, the president must govern the country and he still has basic commitments which he must fulfill. Neither the fight against inflation, nor the control of economic growth, or the process of income redistribution can simply be sustained with rhetoric for temporary psychological effects, new or old political legerdemain, or quick fixes.

CTA DEVELOPS BLG-252 CLUSTER BOMB TECHNOLOGY

PY282140 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Dec 86 p 16

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos -- After 4 years of research and development, the first Brazilian air-to-ground bomb, designed by the Aerospace Technology Center (CTA), is ready for production. Pacifists called the bomb "Disseminator of Death," and the Geneva Convention has restricted its use because it weighs 600 kg and contains 252 grenades which, after the bomb is dropped, spread over a 200-meter radius, destroying everything within it.

The BLG-252, as it is known at the CTA, has been successfully tested at the Air Force testing grounds, and the technology for the production of the six approved prototypes is already available to the industries that are interested in producing the bombs.

In addition to the BLG, the main CTA accomplishments this year were: 300-kg incendiary bombs for military use; the prototype of an alcohol-fueled engine for trucks and buses; a telemeter; a high-precision laser metal-cutting machine; and a carbon fiber especially suitable for the manufacture of heart valves.

The Institute of Research and Development (IPD) report states that the initial steps to transfer the meteorological radar technology to Tecnasa Electronica Professional industry constitute the major accomplishment of 1986. This project, which was almost shelved on several occasions, was initiated more than 10 years ago. A prototype of the radar was built some time ago, but it had to be redone because several of its components had been technologically superseded. Also this year the IPD finished the prototype of a 220-horsepower ethanol engine, which has been tested for more than 200 hours. This project will require 3 more years and World Bank financing before it is completed and tested on buses and trucks.

The IPD installed a press to produce high-resistance zirconium sponges for use in the aeronautics industry, and signed a contract with the Garavello Company for a research project on vegetable oils for aeronautical applications. A laboratory, equipped with CTA-designed machinery, was installed for the dynamic and structural testing of airplane landing gears, wheels, and brakes.

The CTA scientists' greatest concern is to keep up with Brazil's space mission schedule. Sonda and the Satellite Launching Vehicle (VLS) rockets are being developed at this institute, although the programs are considerably delayed. The Sonda-4 rocket, for example, should have been ready for the second stage of flight tests, but the problems the CTA has had in the last few years have delayed the first flight test until sometime in the first half of 1987. Meanwhile, research and development for the VLS continues. The first and second stages of the VLS have successfully passed dynamic and structural tests at the laboratories of the MBB [expansion unknown] in the FRG, early in December.

At the Advanced Studies Institute [IEAV], the most significant projects involved laser rays under an agreement with the University of Campinas. The prototype of a high-precision laser metal-cutting machine has been manufactured at the IEAV. This machine is in the final stage of development for the production of the first industrial prototype. One of the laser machines resulting from this work will be used in medicine, in the neurology field.

A prototype of a laser telemeter is also ready, and its technology will be transferred to Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc], where the telemeters will be produced for use in military airplanes and tanks. The CTA also participated in the procedures necessary for the approval of the Brasilia planes by the United States, the FRG, France, and Norway; as well as in the procedures for the approval of the Nhapecan glider of the Parana Structure Industry, the weapons system of the Esquilo helicopter of Helibras [Brazilian Helicopters, Inc.], and an air target manufactured by Aeromot of Porto Alegre. The CTA itself is developing a set of remote-control air targets, which will be used for target-shooting exercises by the Armed Forces.

AIR FORCE BUYS 12 PLANES FOR AMAZON PATROL

PY242355 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Dec 86 p 7

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos -- Beginning in March, the Aeronautics Ministry will equip its new bases in the Amazon region with 12 more airplanes to facilitate the transportation of freight and passengers, and to patrol the region. Aeronautics Minister Moreira Lima yesterday announced the purchase of these airplanes -- three Lear jets equipped for photometry operations; three C-130 Hercules from the U.S. MacDonnell Douglas Company, for transporting of freight and troops, and six Bandeirante cargo planes.

The minister refused to comment on the cost of the purchase made in the United States. He only revealed that this package had initially been negotiated with another country which withdrew from the operation. Because of this, Brazil can make the deal with conditions considered "exceptional" by the ministry. He also reported that the Brazilian Air Force is studying the purchase of supersonic fighters.

NEW WAR MATERIELS ENTERPRISE TO BE FORMED

PY261401 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Dec 86 p 2

[Excerpt] During a visit yesterday by Aeronautics Minister Brigadier Octavio Moreira Lima to Sao Jose dos Campos, Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Enterprise] President Osiro Carlos da Silva announced that in January a new enterprise under the name of Orbita will be formed. Orbita will be a new war materiels manufacturing enterprise which will be located in Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo state, in an area near the Tamoios Highway connecting the Vale do Paraiba with the city of Caraguatatuba.

Forty percent of the new enterprise capital will be subscribed to by Embraer, another 40 percent by Engesa [Specialized Engineers Inc], and the remaining 20 percent will be subscribed to by Eska, Indel, and Parcon. Orbita will start operations by filling orders from the Army and the Air Force to manufacture the antitank missile LEO (under an agreement with a foreign enterprise whose name was not revealed) and the air-to-air missile Piranha, designed by the Airspace Technological Center (CTA), which will be fitted to the AMX Brazilian-Italian subsonic fighter that will go into production in 1988.

Orbita will not restrict its production to war materiels, said Osiro Carlos da Silva. It will also actively participate in the Brazilian space program that calls for the launching of four Brazilian-made satellites before the end of this decade: Two meteorological and two remote-sensing satellites. Silva added that "Orbita will also manufacture the satellite launchers that are being designed by CTA under the Sonda satellite launching program." [passage omitted]

PINOCHET REJECTS OPEN ELECTIONS IN 1989

PY282213 Paris AFP in Spanish 1553 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Santiago, 28 Dec (AFP) -- President Augusto Pinochet has said in Santiago that the proposal for electing a Chilean president from among several candidates in 1989 is an idea that cannot be taken seriously.

The proposal for open elections was made by the opposition Christian Democratic Party, with the support of groups from the right, center, and left.

The proposed formula violates the constitutional provision calling for a plebiscite on a single candidate designated by the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces. Only if the candidate designated by the Armed Forces -- who could be Pinochet himself -- is rejected, will a free election be called after 16 years of military rule.

Pinochet, whose opinion was published today in EL MERCURIO of Santiago, holds that the electoral formula proposed by the opposition is an idea without depth and prospects. According to Pinochet, the proposal is just a strategy of the opposition following the setbacks it sustained this year.

The opposition had boasted that 1986 would be the decisive and all-important year to put an end to the military government that came to power in 1973. However, the popular demonstrations lost strength, and divisions within the opposition became more acute, after a large arms cache for the guerrillas was discovered and leftist groups claimed responsibility for an attempt on Pinochet's life.

Noting that the opposition has retreated while the government has gained strength, Pinochet told EL MERCURIO that many politicians are clever and able to deceive...but the positions were reversed after the discovery of the arsenals and the attempt on my life. The situation has been reversed, and the fact that the country's economic situation has improved has helped the government.

STATE OF SIEGE LIFTED IN 5TH, 8TH REGIONS

PY241747 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Relay by mobile unit No 10 at La Moneda palace]

[Text] The government has decided to lift the state of siege in the 5th and 8th regions in Chile.

This announcement was made at La Moneda palace by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia, who said that the measure is the result of an assessment of the situation in those regions.

[Begin Garcia recording] The president of the republic today decided to lift the state of siege in the 5th and 8th regions. Thus, the state of siege is now in effect only in the 3rd and 4th regions, in the metropolitan region, and in Antofagasta Province in the 2nd region.

I want to point out that this measure is based on a government policy of reviewing the state of siege according to the circumstances, the facts, and the time. Thus, the assessment has now allowed us to adopt this resolution, which is in keeping with the continuous effort the government is making to review the state of siege issue. [end recording]

The measure will become effective after the appropriate decree is published in the Official Gazette. Minister Garcia stated that this decree has already been signed and that it will definitely be published by next Friday.

Elsewhere, we can report that President Pinochet spent the morning receiving Christmas greetings and is now meeting with his cabinet.

'CONFIDENTIAL' REPORTS FOUND IN GARBAGE

PY241219 Santiago HOY in Spanish 15-21 Dec 86 pp 24, 25

[Text] This happened last week.

In the garbage from one of the buildings located near Bus Stop No. 14 of Vicuna Mackenna Avenue in Santiago, an intact document was protruding. The upper right-hand corner was marked "Confidential" in red letters.

A humble passer-by was stunned: never before had he seen garbage with a diplomatic badge. He looked it over carefully. He read that it carried the number 282/86, that it was dated 12 September 1986 and that it bore the seal of Chilean Ambassador to Brazil Raul Schmidt Dussaillat, who had sent it to the director of Cultural Affairs and Foreign Information of the Chilean Foreign Ministry. The passer-by also noticed the black letters of yet another seal which identified the document as an "informative copy."

There were other similar documents among the garbage, but the passer-by got scared and took only the first one. The document, which is a "press report for the second week of September 1986," was comprised of 21 letter-size pages.

The document is broken up by sections. The first section describes "news agency reports" and "news from local sources." The latter section is in turn divided into "negative information" and "positive information." Among the negative news, the ambassador emphasizes that on 11 September the newspapers O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO and JORNAL DO BRASIL "reported the sale of antiriot vehicles to Chile by means of a triangular operation involving Colombia" and printed a statement of the Movement for Justice and Human Rights: "Brazil is negotiating the sale of $1 billion worth of arms to General Pinochet."

The positive news consists merely of what the embassy itself generated, refuting "the contents of an Amnesty International report denouncing alleged illegal and secret ctivities by the security forces." There is also a communique: "Regarding the murder of journalist Jose Carrasco in Santiago which some news media irresponsibly blamed on the Chilean Government, this embassy wishes to report that it has been officially confirmed that Mr Carrasco was not arrested on orders from the government."

The next item of the document contains "commentaries." It includes a commentary by HOY Deputy Director Abraham Santibanez, which O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO published on 7 September. Ambassador Schmidt's attention was drawn to the part where Santibanez stated that "the war in Chile will continue for many more years," adding that "the opposition apparently wasted energy trying to make 1986 into a 'decisive year'. When this attempt failed it is obvious that many hopes turned to anxiety, helplessness, and a temptation to resort to violence."

Together with the press report Ambassador Schmidt includes a graph providing a statistical summary of the news in printed media only. Out of the listed 51 items, the Chilean ambassador labeled 37 as negative (72.5 percent). According to his assessment there are four objective reports (7.8 percent), and ten positive reports (19.6 percent).

HOY got in touch with Fernando Urrutia, acting director of the Cultural Affairs and Foreign Information Department of the Foreign Ministry and asked him for an opinion about the ambassador's report.

Without denying or confirming the report, Urrutia exclaimed: "I do not understand how you could have gotten hold of a document like this!"

[HOY] What is the official position regarding the press report of the Chilean ambassador in Brazil?

[Urrutia] I cannot tell you that because even if there was one, I am not aware of it. The only thing I can tell you is that these reports are part of the duties of our diplomatic missions abroad and they are normally sent to government officials for analysis and evaluation.

PSSCH REJECTS PROPOSAL BY LEFT-WING CONCLAVE

PY261650 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 19 Dec 86 p C2

[Text] Social Democratic Vice President Arturo Venegas has stated that "the revolutionary left has failed in the past, and its current tactics and strategies of confrontation are also failing."

"Thus, the revolutionary left cannot aspire to lead the opposition and even less can it give us, the opposition parties, advice on how to restore democracy."

Venegas made these statements when he was asked about the document entitled "Proposal for an Opposition Agreement for a Democratic Struggle," which was signed by the nine parties which participated in the recent left-wing conclave.

Venegas stated that "all the Chileans who want democracy as a permanent system must participate in the struggle for the restoration of democracy. However, the political leadership belongs to the sectors that now make up the Democratic Alliance [AD] and the other opposition parties must support the strategies and tactics approved by the AD."

Venegas said that the AD strategy "is the way outlined by the democratic opposition, a way being supported by the majority of Chileans who do not want to continue living under a dictatorship but also do not want violence or a revolution, but the concerted restoration of democracy."

Venegas also stated that "the failure of the revolutionary left has deprived it of a political voice," which is also the case with the right-wing sectors.

Venegas added: "Thus Chileans want a permanent political program for those sectors which have distanced themselves from the above-mentioned extremes so that the country can be governed with common sense and responsibility."

MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] Deputy Secretary General Patricio Cotal has said that "this conclave was useful for Chile and for the democratic forces, because the vast majority at the conclave chose to support a political way out, to reject terrorism and armed struggle, to seek at significant and broad democratic agreement, and to support the movement for free elections."

"In the second place, the majority of the forces that attended the conclave stated that they do not seek the formation of a slate like the UP [Popular Unity]; they want to turn the left into an active element in the development of a bloc favoring change, a bloc, including the center and the left, that will make possible the necessary transformations that will be required by the democratic reconstruction of Chile."

At the same time, the Socialist Party released a communique regarding the document signed by the left-wing conclave, a document which they did not sign themselves.

The Socialist Party's communique states that "the document that was released yesterday (the day before yesterday) as the conclusions of the conclave, several days after the holding of the conclave, was not drawn up, discussed, or approved during the so-called 'left-wing conclave."

The Socialist Party's communique states: "The only agreement reached during the conclave was to release a press communique which was published the next day by the mass media.

The Socialist Party's communique adds: "It is regrettable that this procedure was used. Our party did not even have a chance to discuss the lampoon which was released as a "working document" but was not accepted as such."

BOMB EXPLODES NEAR SANTIAGO SUBWAY STATION

PY241412 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The recent bomb explosion near the Pedro de Valdivia station of the metropolitan subway has caused some concern. The bomb was planted by extremists under some bricks in a house under construction at the intersection of Marchant Pereira Street and 11 de Setiembre Avenue. Carabineros who went to inspect the site verified that the explosion did not cause any damage. No victims were reported either. Personnel from the Carabineros bomb squad collected remains of the bomb for analysis.

ALLEGED ELN GUERRILLA DECLARES WAR ON FARC

PA262043 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1852 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Bogota, 26 Dec (EFE) -- The pro-Castro Army of National Liberation, ELN, today declared war on the FARC guerrilla group. The announcement was made today by an alleged rebel of the "Manuel Vasquez Castano" Front to Radio Caracol Network in Pitalito, southern Colombia.

"With great pain, because of the FARC's banditry and its bloody attack against two ELN members, we denounce the counterrevolutionary methods of the FARC's 8th Front to the people of Huila and the rest of southern Colombia," the alleged guerrilla said on the radio.

The FARC methods, especially those of the FARC 8th Front, "are a long way from being revolutionary principles and go against the process of unity expressed within the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board," the alleged rebel added.

'SECRET' ANTINARCOTICS ORGANIZATION CREATED

PA261920 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1836 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Bogota, 26 Dec (DPA) -- It was officially announced in Bogota today that the Colombian Attorney General's office has once again created its secret antinarcotics group. This decision was adopted in view of the recent increase in drug activities.

The group will be coordinated by Elvira Guerra de Moreno, who has become the first Latin American woman appointed to direct a secret organization. In its first phase, the attorney general's secret antinarcotics group, comprised of more than 500 agents, will try to destroy the bands of drug traffickers that operate within the country.

A few years ago, the antinarcotics group was abolished and its activities were taken over by the police department's antinarcotics command.

ALLEGED ALFARO LIVES MEMBERS EXPELLED TO ECUADOR

PA270401 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0145 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Bogota, 26 Dec (EFE) -- It has been officially reported in Bogota that in the past few hours the Colombian Government drove out four presumed Ecuadoran rebels of the guerrilla group Alfaro Lives. Sources in the Administrative Department of Security, DAS, aliens section have said that the presumed rebels; Jose Luis and Cesar Morales Canavar, Alfonso Lechon Canuendo, and Miguel Angel Potosi; were expelled from the country. The source also said that the four presumed Alfaro Lives members were also part of the so-called America Batallion, an international rebel fusion created by the Colombian M-19. Allegedly, the foursome had entered the country to participate in insurgent actions. DAS reported that the four were forced to leave the country through Ipiales, at the Colombian-Ecuadoran border.

GOVERNMENT RULES OUT RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA

PA281944 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1610 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Quito, 28 Dec (DPA) -- The Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry issued a statement today dismissing the possibility of renewing relations with Nicaragua, because "no incident has occurred to justify or induce an alteration of Ecuadorean Government policy."

The statement was issued in response to a proposal made on Friday by socialist congressional Vice President Enrique Ayala, who requested the renewal of relations with the Sandinist regime. The statement adds that "this has nothing to do with isolating Nicaragua; it stems from the insults to Ecuador and the Ecuadorean head of state proffered by the Nicaraguan head of state. The conservative Ecuadorean Government made the decision to break relations with Nicaragua in October 1985 after a harsh exchange of accusations between Presidents Daniel Ortega and Leon Febres Cordero. Febres Cordero, considered a firm ally of the Reagan administration, had stated that in order to achieve peace in Central America it is an indispensable requirement for democracy to be restored in Nicaragua through "free elections." In response, Ortega accused the Ecuadorean Government of attempting to cancel the 1986 elections, an attempt that ultimately failed. Ecuador responded by breaking relations. In its statement, the Foreign Ministry added that Ecuadorean foreign relations are directed "exclusively by the president of the Republic, not by Congress or any other branch of government."

ALFARO LIVES GROUP TAKES OVER QUITO RADIOS

PA272217 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2036 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Quito, 27 Dec (EFE) -- Five members of the Ecuadoran clandestine group "Alfaro Lives, Dammit" AVC today took over the studios of two radio stations in this capital and broadcast a statement in which they demand President Leon Febres Cordero's resignation.

The radio station "El Sol" and "Musical", which are located a few meters from the presidential palace, were taken over early this morning by AVC members -- including a woman -- who ordered the announcers and technicians to stretch out on the floor while the rebels broadcast a "special information segment." Eduardo Jarrin, the announcer in radio El Sol's morning newscast, said to EFE that the five persons identified themselves as members of AVC and interrupted the program being broadcast to send a statement which had been taped previously. The statement demands the president's resignation, the release of Alfarista member Leonardo Vera Viteri, who is in a local prison, and stated the need to respect human rights in Ecuador. Jarrin said that the statement also reasserted the clandestine movement's effective operations and activities, even though it had been considered practically annihilated after its main leaders died in different clashes with the police. The radio stations' employees remained tied up and immobilized for approximately 40 minutes until they managed to escape and notify the police, which sent specialized personnel to deactivate the equipment which was broadcasting the tape's contents. The radio stations are owned by businessman Jaime Bowen, a well-known sports leader, who was not in the studios.

PRESIDENT STROESSNER DELIVERS CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

PY241922 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 1304 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Christmas Message delivered by President General Alfredo Stroessner to the nation from his office at Government House, 24 December -- Live]

[Excerpts] Paraguayan People: We celebrate the glorious date of the birth of Jesus with joy, because it marks the beginning of a new universal consciousness. Our people can show the world an honorable history, forged with faith in God and the fatherland. [passage omitted]

In Paraguay, we now have a position that has not been easy for us to consolidate. It must not be forgotten that a different situation prevailed in the nation a few decades ago, with an unending succession of coups d'etats, rebellions, uprisings, mutinies, with their aftermath of insecurity for the population and the toll of wounded and dead from the cruel and bloody fights among brothers. [passage omitted]

All the pain caused to the people by the tragedy of civil wars, the ineffectiveness of the previous governments, the sentiments of bitterness and passive acceptance were left behind with the hope-filled advent of the peaceful revolution. [passage omitted]

We live under a democracy, in dialogue with the opposition within the framework of the laws. Our pluralist party system demonstrates that we respect political freedom. We are aware of national aspirations through the constant dialogue between the people and the government. We follow a noble, just, and constructive policy. [applause] Because its mandate comes from the ballot box, only this government has the right to speak on behalf of the people, not those who want to push the country into anarchy, not those who are enemies of the ballot boxes, not those who dream of subversion. These people will not teach us political leadership. [applause] No intervention will be allowed because national dignity does not accept foreign prescriptions or tutoring. Our formula is simple and patriotic: Paraguayan solutions to Paraguayan problems. [applause] [passage omitted]

No one should try to manage the government to suit his own wishes. There are some who express opinions on matters that are not their concern, posing as members of the opposition. Each one must stay within his own sphere of action -- as the popular saying states: Shoemakers should stick to shoemaking. [applause]

The people who attended the recent festivities at Caacupe were moved by their own religious faith to pay homage to the Virgin, not to listen to words that have nothing to do with religion. [applause] Those who uttered those words neglected to mention the security and order which prevent accidents or the improved roads that facilitated the trip to Caacupe. [applause]

While some people talk, we build, thus conscientiously and fully discharging our duty. We exercise our functions within the framework of the Constitution and the laws. Some individuals assume the role of spokesmen for the people without validly representing them. [paragraph continues]

But we are the only ones who can speak for the people because they elected us to be their representatives. [Applause] Unanimity cannot exist, but those who hold different opinions should not attack our democracy. They should prepare themselves for the elections that are freely and periodically held. We must abide by the results of the polls: The majority must govern and the minority must help to conduct the government. [Applause] The banner of peace will not be wrested out of our hands. We will stamp out any act that might lead to disorder. [passage omitted]

This year we were honored by the visit of their Imperial Highnesses, Japanese Prince Hitachi and Princess Hanako, for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the first immigrants from that noble and hard-working nation. During the presence of those illustrious messengers of the friendship of the Empire of the Rising Sun, the modern Regional Health Center of Pedro Juan Caballero, which was built thanks to a nonrefundable credit from Japan, was inaugurated. Also, two important documents on financial assistance from that friendly country were signed: one to support a development plan for the agricultural and livestock-raising sector, through a credit to be repaid in 18 years, with a 7-year grace period, at an annual interest rate of 4.75 percent; and the other granting a credit for the construction and furnishing of the Paraguayan-Japanese Center for the development of human resources. [Applause]. This shows true cooperation for development as positive reflection of bilateral relations and friendship, expressed in deeds, not words. [passage omitted]

With my thoughts turned toward the destiny of the fatherland, I greet the generals, admirals, noncommissioned officers, sergeants, and soldiers of the glorious Armed Forces of the nation. I feel honored to stress the unswerving loyalty with which the Armed Forces carry out their mission, setting an example in defense of our sovereignty and of civic sensitivity. Also remarkable is the example the Armed Forces set in the service of the peace and democracy that reign in the nation. [Applause] [passage omitted]

I extend cordial greetings to the members of the honorable diplomatic corps, with my best wishes of prosperity for their governments and their people. Our nation offers them the warmth of its friendship and its faith in the nobel principle of cooperation among sovereign states. [Applause]

I thank the Divine Maker for the good health I enjoy. Under his protection I will continue to work in the service of my countrymen and the country's increasing progress down the road of history and the optimistic vision of the future. Merry Christmas and Happy 1987 to everyone, and may the New Year be another year of optimism and tireless dedication to the progress of the Republic of Paraguay. [Applause]

MINIMUM WAGES GO UP 23 PERCENT 1 JAN

FL230448 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0310 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Beginning 1 January 1987, the country's general minimum wages will go up 23 percent, and workers in the federal district, the metropolitan area, and high cost of living zones [zonas de vida cara] will see their wages rise from 2,480 to 3,050 pesos a day. Javier Bonilla Garcia, chairman of the National Commission on Minimum Wages (CNSM), reported that the council of government officials, employers, and workers' representatives had unanimously agreed on the 23 percent hike. He indicated that the minimum wage of workers in group two will rise from 2,290 to 2,820 pesos as of 1 January 1987, while the general minimum wage for group two workers, those in a lower wage scale, will go from 2,060 to 2,535 pesos a day.

LEGISLATORS UNHAPPY WITH WAGE INCREASE

FL240352 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0330 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's nine political parties have expressed unhappiness with the new 23 percent increase in minimum wages, which was announced yesterday by the national commission on minimum wages [CNSM] and goes into effect on 1 January 1987.

The parliamentary factions representing the parties in the lower chamber noted that the increase would be counteracted by January costs. Deputy Alfonso Reyes Medrano, of the labor faction in the ruling PRI, urged strongly that the CNSM meet in February to resolve the difficult situation workers will face in 1987. For his part, Alejandro Encinas, of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico, demanded reforms to article 12 of the constitution regarding increasing benefits for the working class and adopting binding measures to restore their purchasing power. Other legislators pointed out that along with the new minimum wages, the Commerce Secretariat must act forcefully to prevent price increases.

LABOR UNION LEADERS PLEASED WITH WAGE INCREASE

FL241740 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0405 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 23 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- The country's labor leaders have said the 23 percent minimum wage increase effective 1 January is a good solution under current circumstances. Fidel Velazquez, Secretary General of the Confederation of Mexican Workers, said current circumstances do not make possible what the constitution requires: adequate wages for heads of households. He explained that in line with this, the CTM member labor unions are being notified to demand such increases. If employers refuse to pay, a strike will be called at those enterprises to recover the workers' purchasing power. He said such a wage increase leaves open the possibility for the national minimum wage commission to meet again in February to make new adjustments so that wages are reviewed every month the same way prices are revised. [passage omitted]

OPPOSITION PARTIES MAY NOT RUN IN 1989

PA202115 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Dec 86 p 1a

[Article by Flor Quintero]

[Text] Mario Galindo, a distinguished member of the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, MOLIRENA, has said that the opposition parties will not participate in the 1989 elections.

In an interview yesterday for the news media, the politician said that "the elections situation does not seem very clear. In past elections, the opposition went through a very regrettable moment: We are convinced that we won the elections, but the victory was not recognized."

The MOLIRENA leader said that "as long as the most important electoral institutions, such as the Electoral Tribunal, are not entirely renewed, it would be difficult to believe that the coming elections might result in a course that can lead the country to a true democracy."

Mario Galindo said that "because of the things that have been seen up to now, it is very probable that the opposition parties may not participate in elections of this type."

As was previously published by this newspaper some weeks ago, opposition political parties have charged that the ratification of Magistrate Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez as president of the Electoral Tribunal is a government strategy to prepare an electoral fraud in the 1989 elections similar to one in May 1984.

Several leaders of the Democratic Opposition Alliance, ADO, based their opinions on the fact that Pulice de Rodrigufez is "an official who was molded by the Panama Defense Forces," because before she was appointed to the Electoral Tribunal, she worked as a traffic judge under the administration of the Panamanian armed institution.

In this framework, several top leaders of the Authentic Panamenista Party, PPA, in a 23 November meeting, requested a vote recount of the 1984 elections, in which the "biggest fraud in Panamanian history was recorded."

The PPA said that on 6 May 1984, the Panamanian people participated in the first direct elections for president and vice president, just like on May 1968, and that ADO candidates Arnulfo Arias Madrid, Carlos F. Rodrigfuez, and Ricardo Arias Calderon had won the presidency, first vice presidency, and second vice presidency, respectively, by more than 50,000 votes."

BRIEFS

UN FRG AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS -- Jorge E. Ritter has been appointed special and plenipotentiary Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations. He replaces David Samudio Jr., who has been appointed Panamanian ambassador to the FRG. [Summary] [Panama City STAR & HERALD in English 23 Dec 86 p a-2 PA]

EL SALVADOR

NEWLY FORMED MOVEMENT ASKS DUARTE TO RESIGN

PA242225 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Dec 86 p 9

[National Action Movement 24 December message to the Salvadoran people]

[Text] National Action Movement [Movimiento de Accion Nacional], MAN, to the Salvadoran people:

Concerned over the serious deterioration in all areas since Jose Napoleon Duarte took power, and faced with impending chaos, anarchy and total extinction toward which we are irreversibly headed, citizens from all over the country, aware of their civic and historic responsibilities, agreed to form the MAN.

As one of our initial actions, MAN publishes the following manifesto for the people's consciousness:

Considering that the country is saddled with the gravest political, social, and economic situation in its history, because of:

1. The obvious inability of Jose Napoleon Duarte to govern the country;
2. The increasing corruption of officials and those close to those who govern;
3. The arrogance and domination by those belonging to the legislative and executive branches, who blindly obey Durate, and refuse to listen, snubbing the whole country's anguished cry;
4. The constant and deliberate violation of the country's Constituation and other laws of the republic under an impunity which is a disgrace to the country.
5. The constant deceit and broken promises which have led us to poverty, moral deterioration, chaos, and total insecurity;
6. Duarte's total lack of will to win the war and thus attain peace with dignity and decorum; instead he prefers dialogues, negotiations, and compromises with the guerrillas;
7. The commiting of our sovereignty and national security to foreign forces and powers;
8. Duarte's evident intention to destroy the country's economy and, consequently, Salvadoran society with such measures as the frequent tax packages.

Therefore, reflecting the feelings of the 5 million Salvadorans and as an initial measure for national salvation, MAN demands President Jose Napoleon Duarte's immediate resignation.

San Salvador, 24 December 1986
National Action Movement
Signed: Josefina Martinez, ID Card No. 11-39-62-45; Maria del Carmen Gonzalez, ID card No. 5-11-00-31-17; Antonieta Tablas, ID card No. 11-06-27-984; Gloria Mendez, ID card No. 11-057-921; Isabel Duenas, ID Card No. 11-08-5893; and Jose Rodriguez, ID Card No. 47-01-01-82.

REBELS DAMAGE HELICOPTER IN USULUTAN 23 DECEMBER

PA270259 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] On 23 December, at 1000, four rocket-launching helicopters strafed and launched rockets against Canton La Montana, San Agustin jurisdiction, Usulutan Department. Paracaidistas Battalion troops landed at 1030 and were attacked by antiaircraft units of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade's Commander Gonzalo Southern Group, which used M-60 machineguns and rifles. The UH-1M rocket launching helicopter was hit and withdrew from the zone, visibly damaged by the guerrilla fire of our heroic antiaircraft units.

Meanwhile, the same report states that at 1230 that day, the Paracaidistas Battalion sustained one dead from a mine. At 1430, guerrilla units attacked those same forces with rifle fire at La Montana school; one soldier was critically wounded. The frustrated and demoralized enemy picked up its troops at 1700, using helicopters that are nothing but General [Juan Rafael] Bustillo's flying coffins.

FMLN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON COL OMAR AVALOS

PA240333 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Dec 86

[FMLN Press Communique, issued in El Salvador on 23 December]

[Text] 1. On 24 November, the FMLN presented to Monsignor Rivera y Damas at Panama City a specific demand for the release of Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos. Based on the reports issued by many popular organizations, we demanded the release of 52 activists of the popular movement and 29 people from northern Morazan Department who were evicted and arrested during Armed Forces operations against the civilian population. We also demanded an end to all the tortures and the arraignment of 34 persons reported missing after being arrested by the government's repressive corps.

2. One month later, and given that the Armed Forces had not issued a reply to the FMLN demand, Colonel Avalos issued a public appeal to engineer Duarte and General Blandon to expedite the necessary negotiations to attain his release.

3. The FMLN has received no reply from the government or Armed Forces so far.

4. The FMLN has authorized Col Avalos' family to visit him so that they can be together during the Christmas and New Year festivities. The visit will be coordinated by the International Red Cross Committee with the FMLN.

5. Despite the behavior of the government and Armed Forces High Command, the FMLN maintains its willingness to attain Col Avalos' release as soon as possible and respect, as it has always done, his physical and moral integrity.

6. The FMLN has contacted Monsignor Rivera y Damas, the International Red Cross Committee, and Latin American governments to evacuate all those who have been maimed in the war and are still in jail or are kept in hospitals under the International Red Cross Committee's protection. We have suggested that the evacuation take place next 7 January. The evacuation of these maimed fighters stems from the international laws and agreements adopted in Ayagualo between the government and the FMLN-FDR and cannot be part of operations to exchange prisoners.

7. The FMLN reasserts its support to more than 1,000 political prisoners who are kept in jail by Jose Napoleon Duarte's government and are currently engaged in a just and combative strike to defend their rights.

El Salvador, 23 December, 1986

GUATEMALA

FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS REESTABLISHED WITH UK

PA251300 Paris AFP in Spanish 2232 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 24 Dec (AFP) -- Guatemala and Great Britain resumed diplomatic relations after a 23-year break, Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo himself announced today. [passage omitted]

Consular relations were reestablished in September, and today, by a simple exchange of notes, diplomatic relations were also reestablished. [passage omitted]

ARMY DENIES ROLE IN KIDNAPPING OF GAM MEMBER

PA270245 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Guatemala's Defense Ministry has reported that there is a disinformation campaign about the Army. The Guatemalan Army issued a special communique today noting that there is a disinformation campaign about the Army. By way of example, it mentioned the case involving a member of the Mutual Support Group [GAM] who is missing. It said that the Army has no connection with this case. The official communique added that the Army categorically denies GAM charges regarding the kidnapping of (Basilio Tuiz Rodriguez), which took place in Solola while this person was being taken to a nearby hospital.

The Army said that GAM charges are reckless and clearly aim to misinform the people about the Army's true mission. The Army asked the GAM to introduce the proof it claims to have in court. There, the people responsible for the kidnapping will suffer the consequences of the law.

Military personnel are not engaged in a campaign of intimidation. Today, the Defense Ministry denied as groundless charges that Army personnel are intimidating peasants to keep them from unionizing in Huehuetenango. The military statement mentioned constitutional provisions regarding total freedom to unionize as a way to defend one's interests. Furthermore, the Army denies that it was hampering the right to unionize, as the Army is not involved in this field.

HONDURAS

ONE INJURED IN BOMB EXPLOSION LA PRENSA OFFICES

PA262221 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2102 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Report by Jorge Castillo -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Castillo] Radio America listeners, we have Francisco Medina Argenal, who is LA PRENSA newspaper's managing editor in Tegucigalpa. He will explain to Radio America's listeners the information about the attack on this news media.

[Medina] Thank you, Castillo. The attack occurred at approximately 1430; it has shaken the journalists and all the personnel working this afternoon at LA PRENSA's installations. We have no idea who planted the device in the upper floor, close to one of the bathrooms and the publicity offices. Sergio Samayoa, the publicity manager, was injured. However, I think that he sustained minor wounds and was transferred to a hospital or medical center for attention. The other fellow workers... [changed thought] some of our secretaries suffered nervous breakdowns and have already been transferred to various hospitals for the appropriate care. However, in general terms, we have sustained no human losses, which would be highly deplorable. [passage omitted]

[Castillo] The Foreign Ministry is located beside this building. Did it sustain any damage? Did the explosion at LA PRENSA's facilities have any repercussions over there?

[Medina] Castillo, I do not think so. The device was planted, I repeat, on the upper floor of LA PRENSA's building. You can see how the building's front windows shattered and fell on our vehicles. Some of the Foreign Ministry's vehicles were also covered with the debris. That is the only thing we have to report right now. We have no other reports. The Cobra Battalion members who guard the Foreign Ministry came over immediately. They are the only vigilance we have around here. The two members of the Cobra Battalion posted for the afternoon shift in that building came over here.

[Castillo] Thank you. You have heard Francisco Medina Argenal, managing editor of the newspaper LA PRENSA here in Tegucigalpa, where an explosive device -- planted by unidentified people -- exploded around 1400 this afternoon.

MONTOYA SAYS WAR WITH NICARAGUA 'INEVITABLE'

PA261909 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 26 Dec 86 p 3

[Excerpts] Honduran Congress President Carlos Orbin Montoya has said that war with the Sandinists is inevitable. Montoya added that this is why he has been traveling through several countries seeking economic and political support for Honduras, especially from those countries' parliaments.

Speaking to a group of fellow party members who support his aspirations to attain the candidacy for the Liberal Party Central Executive Council, Montoya said that he is trying to open "the current government to the world."

"We have to open the Honduran democracy to the world, so we will not depend unilaterally [as published] on the United States, because when we are unilaterally dependent, they [not further identified] impose their policies against the Honduran people's interests, Montoya added.

Montoya said he is determined to open the Honduran Government to international public opinion, but he claimed that people think his effort is valueless, because there are people who busy themselves distorting his good actions.

Montoya explained that the foreign aid budget of all the developed countries are designed by the various parliaments; therefore, it is important for Honduras to have friends within those parliaments. [passage omitted]

Montoya continued, saying that "we can pretend and lie to the Honduran people, but a conflict with Nicaragua is increasingly serious. Honduras' profile in this conflict is rising into an increasingly compromising situation, and we must be prepared for it."

"I have repeatedly said at the Security Council that the Honduran people must be guided to defend itself from terrorism. There is going to be terrorism and aggression in Honduras, and we are not prepared to face either one. We are not trained to defend ourselves against all that," Montoya said.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA PROPOSES CONTRA RESOLUTIONS TO AZCONA

PA261603 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Text] Managua -- It was learned here today that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has proposed joint measures to Jose Azcona to resolve the situation between the two countries resulting from the presence of counterrevolutionary groups in Honduras.

In a letter to the Honduran head of state, Commander Ortega points to actions that his government is willing to implement together with the Honduran Government as evidence of his willingness to struggle for an effective and lasting resolution of the existing tension between the two nations.

The 3-point document states that Nicaraguans involved in counterrevolutionary activities who voluntarily decide to take advantage of the amnesty law would be accepted back and granted all legal guarantees.

Should these citizens not accept the amnesty, Nicaragua would cooperate with Honduras in joint efforts with third countries that wish to welcome them, the letter stated.

President Ortega's letter, which was sent on 22 December, added that Nicaragua would assume all the expenses involved in the transfer of Nicaraguans who want to return to the country that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees cannot cover.

MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON MISSING AIRCRAFT

PA241220 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Nicaraguan Defense Ministry Communique No. 67, issued in Managua on 23 December]

[Text] 1. The Sandinist Air Force AN-2 TP airplane with registry No. 77, which was reported missing on 19 December, was found crashed near Cerro El Columpio, 7 km northeast of Yali, Jinotega department.

2. The Sandinist Air Force technical commission that carried out the appropriate investigations has determined that the aircraft crashed as a result of the bad weather that prevailed in the region.

3. The aircraft's three crew members and eight passengers died as a result of the crash. Pilot: 2d Lieutenant Nestor Caleman Bados; co-pilot: 2d Lieutenant Gustavo Lopez; flight technician: Johnny Lopez Chavarria; 1st Lieutenant Felipe Pineda; Lieutenant Medardo Castillo; Lieutenant Santos Rodriguez; 2d Lieutenant Augustin Zeledon; companero Juan Rivera; companero Marcos Centeno Gonzalez; companero Rene Herrera Delgado; and companero Luis Flores.

Managua, 23 December, 1986

CASTRO CLOSES CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENARY MEETING

FL241410 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party's Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, made the closing remarks at the party's Central Committee Third Plenary Meeting held in Havana yesterday.

Fidel made a thorough analysis of the country's current economic situation and the outlook for next year. He also talked about the various conditions and causes of the problems, limitations, and difficulties we are facing.

The plenary meeting made a preliminary review of the 1987 economic plan and state budget which, in accordance with the law, the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government (ANPP) has to approve. The ANPP regular period of sessions will be held on 25 and 26 December. The Central Committee also approved the party's budget for next year, which is increasing its self-financing as a result of the policies aimed at decreasing spending and increasing income.

During the Third Congress [as heard], our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro stressed the need for consistency and seriousness in the daily effort to optimally utilize existing conditions and the country's potential in terms of human resources, the work force's skills and cadres, as well as the material resources we have. The first secretary of the Central Committee again referred to the decisive role the human, ideologic, and consciousness factors play, the need to inform, clarify, guide, and mobilize the masses based on a realistic approach according to our possibilities, the revolutionary experience, and our people's virtues and, at the same time, give priority to labor education, discipline, ethics, and work culture.

Fidel expressed his deep conviction that the party will live up to this historic battle and will be capable of guiding the state and lead all the people with the example of its members.

In line with prevailing statutes, the Third Central Committee Plenary Meeting approved the Politburo's proposal on the integration of the National Committee of Control and Revisions headed by commander of the revolution Juan Almeida Bosque, elected for this post by the Third Party Congress. Also responding to a Politburo request, the Third Central Committee Plenary Meeting elected comrades Carlos Aldana Escalante and Pedro Ross Leal as secretariat members of the Central Committee.

COMMITTEES MEET TO DISCUSS UPCOMING ANPP SESSION

Approves Civil Code Proposal

FL241930 Havana Cubana Television Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Various National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP] committees are meeting today in Havana and are discussing the matters to be considered during the 11th period of sessions of the second legislature which will begin tomorrow.

The Constitution and Judicial Affairs Committee approved the proposal made by ANPP President Flavio Bravo Pardo for the debates on the civil code to begin during the current period of sessions and continue next year during the first period of sessions of the new legislature [words indistinct] due to its great importance and complexity. Bravo Pardo added that it is important that the new deputies give their views on the civil code and that all who may have opinion have an opportunity to express it so that once it is approved there are no chances of erroneous interpretations.

Discuss Economy, Exports

FL242230 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2032 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The standing work committees of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] have been analyzing since this morning the efforts made in these past 5 years and are summing up the experiences and results of their work.

The Global Economic Activities Committee, chaired by Faustino Perez, is engaged in an arduous analysis of the bill on the single economic and social development plan for 1987. The committee is also involved in drafting its findings, as well as the bill on the 1987 state budget. Many concerns were expressed in connection with the single plan, which sums up the 1986 economic performance and makes a comprehensive assessment of the execution of the main aspects of the plan and the budget.

It was stated that in 1987 the basic focus of economic efforts should be directed toward increasing foreign trade. The foreign affairs committee studied the present production of exports, basing itself on a survey carried out in 122 enterprises and entities involved in foreign trade. The committee made important recommendations and set out certain considerations explaining that there is a defined policy on the role and importance of exports in the country's economy. It was stressed that, nevertheless, these are not dealt with in accordance with the necessary integration. The committee pointed out that the most serious problems productive enterprises face are supply, (?outdated) mechanisms, and (?inefficiency).

It was stressed that there are serious problems with the stabilization of the labor force, especially in the big enterprises and factories designed to produce exports.

The committee stated that it was imperative to make a full analysis of the present-day situation of exports. It was pointed out that considerable resources have been earmarked for investment to increase and diversify exports, as well as to develop and strengthen the infrastructure with a view to their growth. Therefore, it is necessary to make a rigorous economic evaluation of the rationale, output, and results in terms of the commercial balance of these investments in accordance with the prices and dividends that they offer.

The deputies said the structure and performance of the various exports must be thoroughly examined.

Examines Composition of ANPP

FL242250 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2041 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] The National Electoral Commission has met under the chairmanship of Jose Ramon Machado Ventura to discuss organizational aspects of the constituent session of the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP] for the third legislative session that will take place on 27 December at the Palace of Conventions.

The commission members examined the composition of the ANPP, whose members were elected by the municipal assemblies of the people's government. They also examined the agenda of the session installing the ANPP, which will elect its president, vice president, and secretary, and the state council members by direct and secret vote.

The composition of the elders bench [mesa de edad] was also decided. This group will be presided over by the oldest deputy, assisted by the two youngest.

REPORTAGE ON ANPP'S 11TH PERIOD OF SESSIONS

Sessions Open 25 Dec in Havana

FL251513 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1351 GMT on 25 December begins carrying live relay of the opening session of the 11th and last period of sessions of the second legislature of the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP] from Havana's Palace of Conventions.

Coverage begins with two unidentified reporters standing at the Palace of Conventions' lobby chatting about the event which is about to begin. They say current and new ANPP deputies are present.

At 1401 GMT the camera shows Cuban President Fidel Castro entering the theater where the deputies are already seated. Immediately the national anthem is played. The camera pans the audience and the presiding table where Fidel Castro is standing next to FAR Minister Raul Castro together with other top-ranking Cuban officials.

ANPP President Flavio Bravo Pardo begins the 11th session by saying 457 deputies are in attendance, which is 92.7 percent of the total deputies. He asks for 1 minute of silence to honor the memory of three fellow deputies who passed away; Felix Gonzalez Despaine, Mario Alvarado Caraballo, and Jose Miranda Valdez. He then submits to the consideration of the meeting the agenda of the most recent session. The previous agenda is approved without any comments. Bravo says the only pending matters are the laws which will regulate cooperatives and the ones to determine which organ is going to regulate environmental affairs. The ANPP President reviews the current agenda which will include the Council of State's report, the ANPP President's report on the work conducted by the permanent committees, the final civil code bill, the Council of Minister's report, the Cienfuegos Provincial Assembly of the People's Government report, the ANPP report on international activities, the steelworking industry ministry report, the single economic and social development plan for 1987 bill, the state budget for 1987 bill, and a brief ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of the people's government organs.

The agenda us unanimously approved without discussion.

At 1409 GMT, the voice of staff announcer Manolo Ortega is heard saying the coverage ends and adds that Tele-Rebelde will keep the people informed on the developments of the ANPP session.

Pass Council of State Report

FL251617 Havana Radio Reloj network in Spanish 1502 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The 457 deputies participating in the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP] session being held at the Palace of Conventions, have approved the Council of State report. ANPP President Flavio Bravo read the Council of State report, which includes the work conducted between 1 December 1985 and 31 October 1986. During that period of time, eight decree laws were approved, including the proper social security protection for internationalists who are injured during the fulfillment of a civilian or military mission and rules applicable to members of the rebel army who have been recognized as combatants of the liberation war, among others. The document also mentions the honorary titles and medals conferred by the Council of State and other approved documents.

The permanent committees submitted to the ANPP 69 reports, 40 of them were reports to constituents and 29 referred to regulation drafts and bills. Also, 102 research projects of economic and social interest were completed, with a total of 805 recommendations. Only six of them were submitted for the consideration of the National Assembly. The unanimously approved permanent committees report indicated the work performed by those groups had difficulties and deficiencies and added they will be able to contribute to the rectification process we have begun by working toward that goal.

Discuss Civil Code Draft

FL251637 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1505 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] With Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in attendance, the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP], which opened at Havana's Palace of Conventions this morning, began discussing the final draft of the civil code.

ANPP President Flavio Bravo reported that Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Jose Fernandez Alvarez, Juan Escalona and Jesus Montane, among others, form part of the code's drafting committee.

He said the 11th regular period of the second legislature of the ANPP will begin discussing the draft but the debate will end in July so the new ANPP delegates have a chance to give their views.

Flavio Bravo underscored all the present delegates' appreciation for the work performed under the direction of Blas Roca Calderio on the initial civil code draft.

Hear Cienfuegos Report

FL252147 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The first work session of the 11th regular period of the second legislature of the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP] concluded this morning with the discussion of the Cienfuegos Provincial Assembly's report. Fidel was in attendance. During the session, the commander in chief repudiated the miserable stance of the Spanish Parliament president, who proposed Cuba's exclusion from the fourth Ibero-American Conference held in Madrid, because, our country has dark-skinned people, not blond. [passage omitted]

During Cienfuegos Province's report to the ANPP, Politburo Member Vilma Espin took the floor to ask why child mortality has risen in the province. Espin, president of the Federation of Cuban Women, pointed out that the rate has gone down enormously in Granma, while it has gone up by 17 [not further specified] in Cienfuegos. Why hasn't the rate gone down in Cienfuegos as has been the case in other areas of the country, asked Comrade Vilma. Humberto Miguel Fernandez, first party secretary in Cienfuegos, replied that child mortality had indeed risen in 1985 but that it had gone down to 10.8 percent this year, the lowest in the country. The party leader noted that this achievement owed to favorable factors in the province, where a number of responsive measures were adopted.

A good report, which responds to good work; I congratulate the people of Cienfuegos, said Deputy Faustino Perez. He went on to speak about the model units movement, which is one of the activities in which the people's government has been least successful. He said that this had been conceived with the hope that services would improve. Faustino noted that Cienfuegos has problems that conspire against the good progress of that movement in the areas of gastronomy, health, and in some aspects of education. He stressed that this Achilles' heel must be faced and this situation must be the focus of the country's attention so services may be improved. He added that the movement has not followed the necessary rigorousness. [passage omitted]

Castro Debates Report

FL252208 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2132 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] The afternoon session of the first working day of the 11th ordinary period of the second legislature of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] opened with the resumption of the debate of the Cienfuegos Assembly report. Moments before the morning session ended, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro noted that there were many important issues to examine before approving the Cienfuegos report. Among them, Fidel cited the question of whether the oil refinery would be completed in 1988, the efforts being made at the electronuclear plant, and the problem of the Cienfuegos Bay oilspill.

A message was read from Luis Leon, president of the Latin American parliament, in solidarity with Argentina's just claims over the sovereignty of the Malvinas.

Castro on Cienfuegos Manpower

FL252319 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2138 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] The fact that the utilization of the workday has improved from 67 to 78 percent at the Cienfuegos electronuclear plant is the equivalent of having an additional 1,000 workers on the project, Fidel has stated. During his participation in the National Assembly of the Peoples' Government [ANPP], the commander in chief said that despite the characteristics of the project, which requires a large number of controls, if the figure were to go up to 85 percent, that would be the equivalent of 2,000 workers more. Fidel noted that the brigade building the plant will have to build the electronuclear plant in northern Oriente. In order for the brigade to have the manpower needed, a program to build houses for the workers is necessary. If one thinks of long-term stability, the commander in chief added, we have to begin building housing not only in Cienfuegos but also in northern Oriente and in Pinar del Rio.

The basic problem faced by the brigade building the Cienfuegos electronuclear plant is the welders, because the welding work there must be of high quality and precision, Fidel asserted. He said that a school has been built where 400 students are learning to weld. It could be that in the future we might be able to help other countries that do not have enough welders, but for the time being we must recruit more, Fidel declared. He mentioned the political work among 90 skilled welders who came to Cienfuegos from other provinces for 2 years, and noted that 88 of them have stated their intention to continue indefinitely in the construction of electronuclear plants. The commander in chief told the 457 ANPP delegates that party work and construction in Cienfuegos are truly praiseworthy.

CENSURES SPANISH LEADER

FL260339 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Dec 86

[Statement by the National Assembly of the People's Government, ANPP, read by Deputy Ramon Pez Ferro, chief of the ANPP's International Relations Department, at the 11th regular session of the ANPP held in Havana's Palace of Conventions, on 25 December 1986, has unanimously agreed to strongly repudiate the prepotent and reactionary stance of the president of Spain's Congress of Deputies, Mr Felix Pons, who, in a demonstration of his true political feelings, regardless of the flag they hide behind, decided to exclude the ANPP from the fourth meeting of presidents of Ibero-American Democratic Parliaments held in Madrid from 4 to 7 December 1986.

As a full member of the Latin American parliament and having participated in the previous meeting in Mexico, Cuba should have been invited of its own right. Mr Pons exhibited his insolent, prepotent, and discriminatory attitude when responding to a question from surprised journalists who asked him the reason for Cuba's exclusion, said: It is as if someone were trying to organize a club for blonds, and someone else wanted to slip in a dark person. To this, Mexican Senator Gonzalez Corbala, who heads his country's delegation, replied right there at the news conference: I would like to remind Mr Pons that in Latin America, we are all dark, not blond.

The ANPP also agreed to express appreciation for the stand taken by the immense majority of the Latin American parliamentary delegations attending the meeting, which impugned Mr Pons' arbitrary decision, and clearly declared their disagreement with Cuba's exclusion. This demonstrated the solidarity of Latin American parliaments with Cuba, and the mistaken and ill-mentioned position of the president of Spain's Congress of Deputies, who alone could prevail because of his manipulation of regulations, disregarding the rule of majority.

U.S. BLACKS 'VICTIMS OF UNFAIR TREATMENT'

PA281240 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Dec 86

["Viewpoint" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] First a slave, then a member of a racial minority discriminated against in all respects, the U.S. black citizen continues to be a victim of unfair treatment by the society in which he lives. On certain occasions, U.S. black actor Dick Gregory has rightly said: Let us be honest and admit that the United States is a racist country. Recent developments in New York confirm his view. On 20 December, a black youth who was under attack -- together with two friends -- by a gang of whites, was killed. City Mayor Edward Koch compared this incident to a lynching. However, such incidents must not be viewed as isolated outbursts of racism. They are abetted by a tradition of racial discrimination that the system instills in people and has been present since the merciless lynching of blacks by the Klu Klux Klan while accomplice authorities watched, through the murders of civil rights leaders Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, to the current drama that U.S. blacks are experiencing.

This situation became worse when Reagan arrived at the White House. He suspended subsidies to retrain and give professional education to the unemployed. He also cut back on social programs. These measures chiefly hurt ethnic minorities. U.S. Vice President George Bush recently admitted that in that country, the conditions the blacks live in are still unfair. At this point, it is worth noticing that the level of unemployment among blacks is five times as high as among whites. The number of black citizens living below the poverty level is rising. This hampers their access to safe and healthy housing and adequate food. For these reasons, a growing number of blacks are dropping out of school to help their parents. Meanwhile, education policies are also racist. It suffices to say that just 10 percent of all students in U.S. centers of higher education are blacks, while private colleges and schools can bar entrance to races they consider inferior.

Even those blacks whom the United States parades as a showcase of equality suffer the impact of racism. A group of U.S. Foreign Service employees accused the Department of State of systematically discriminating against its black personnel. Out of a total of 150 ambassadors, only 6 are black. Also, blacks are assigned second- and third-rank posts that do not provide opportunities for professional development. The White House, which recently launched a so-called human rights campaign -- but which really seeks to discredit governments that do not respond to its interests -- is the main violator of these rights in its own country. These are the racist and discriminatory policies blacks suffer in the United States.

JAMAICA

TRADE WITH CARICOM PARTNERS TERMED 'SLUGGISH'

FL242327 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Jamaica's trade with its Caribbean Community -- Caricom -- partners remained sluggish during the first 9 months of this year. According to figures by the Bank of Jamaica, the island's modest surplus was more than half [as heard]. The island's Caricom surplus between January and September was $4.78 million U.S. compared with $11.2 million over the same period last year. Total exports during the 9-month period were U.S. $23.3 million, down by $1.1 million compared with last year, while imports were $5.3 million higher at $23.6 million.

Jamaica recorded deficits during the review period with Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Dominica. Last year Jamaica only recorded a deficit with Dominica. The biggest deficit of $4.2 million was with Trinidad and Tobago, from whom Jamaica imported more than $13 million and exported $9.2 million.

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES ANTIDRUG SMUGGLING MEASURES

FL251302 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Postal authorities in Jamaica have introduced new regulations on outgoing mail to curtail drug smuggling. The new regulations include a provision requiring people sending packages to provide identification and their residential address and inspections of outgoing mail.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET 19 DEC

FL200020 Bridgetown CANA in English 2358 GMT 19 Dec 86

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 19, CANA -- New Prime Minister A N R Robinson announced the bulk of his much-reduced cabinet today taking for himself the key finance portfolio.

Basdeo Panday, one of Robinson's two deputies in the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), was given responsibility for external affairs.

Panday and nine other ministers took the oath of office before President Ellis Clarke today to add to Robinson and Attorney General Selwyn Richardson who had done so earlier.

Two others will be sworn in on Monday to bring the size of the cabinet to 14, eight fewer than in the last administration of the Peoples National Movement (PNM) which ruled for 30 years until its stunning defeat by the NAR in general elections Monday [15 December].

Several of the ministries have been amalgamated into so-called super-ministries under which junior ministers will be given added responsibility, NAR sources said tonight.

One woman is in the cabinet -- Mrs Jennifer Johnson, who was responsible for youth affairs in the office of the chamber of commerce and industry. She is minister for youth, culture, and creative arts.

A place is also found for Lincoln Myers who defeated outgoing Prime Minister George Chambers. Myers, a former senator who sprang to prominence a year ago when he staged a much-publicised limited fast against corruption, is minister of food production, marine exploitation, and forestry.

Robinson appointed two full ministers to assist him in the finance ministry -- Selby Wilson, a former head of the state-run telephone company, and economist Trevor Sudama.

Other appointments:

Minister [of]:
Planning and Reconstruction --- Winston Dookeran
Works, Settlement, and Infrastructure --- John Humphrey
Energy --- Kelvin Ramnath
Labour, Employment, and Manpower Resources --- Albert Richards
Health, Welfare, and Status of Women --- Emmanuel Hosein

The names of the other two ministers were not announced. Neither have the portfolios of education, transport, and national security been filled so far.

Only two members of the cabinet have previous ministerial experience -- Robinson and Richardson, who served in the same posts in previous PNM administrations.

Panday, 53, who now directs the country's foreign relations, has his power base in the labour movement, particularly the sugar belt in central Trinidad.

The lawyer/politician said he will resign his position as president general of the All Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union next week.

He was opposition leader in the last parliament and was head of the United Labour Front, one of four parties which merged to form the NAR last February.

Dookeram, an economist, was regarded as the architect of the NAR manifesto.

The cabinet was having its first meeting tonight and Robinson was expected to hold a news conference afterward.

This morning he met with permanent secretaries to discuss the operations of government.

Remaining Members

FL241700 Bridgetown CANA in English 1646 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 24, CANA -- Newspaper publisher Ken Gordon was today named among three ministers to complete the 14-member cabinet of new Prime Minister A N R Robinson.

Gordon, managing director of the daily TRINIDAD EXPRESS Newspapers and with interests in several other regional newspapers, was appointed minister of industry and (state) enterprises.

The other two appointments were Herbert Atwell, chairman of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), as National Security Minister and former High School Principal Clive Pantin, as education minister.

Pantin, known regionally as a cricket commentator, is vice-chairman of the NAR, which scored a landslide win in general elections a week ago.

All three ministers were also named as government senators. Both Atwell and Pantin were sworn in today by President Ellis Clarket. Gordon was said to be in Jamaica on holiday.

The size of the cabinet is reduced from the 22 in the former administration of the People's National Movement, fulfilling an NAR election pledge.

Two ministers named earlier to assist Robinson in the Ministry of Finance and four other announced today will not be in the cabinet.

Dr Carson Charles, who defeated former industry minister Wendell Mottley, is one of the two junior ministers in the Works Ministry. The other is Joseph Toney.

Pamela Nicholson, representative for Tobago West, was named to the Education Ministry and Dr Brinsley Samaroo to the prime ministers' office with special responsibility for the proposed decentralisation of power to local government councils.

Three parliamentary secretaries were also announced. Gloria Henry was appointed to the ministry of External Affairs, freelance journalist Eden Shand, Ministry of Food Producton, and Ken Butcher in the Ministry of Sport.

The new junior ministers and parliamentary secretaries will be sworn in next week.